

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-14 DRC-01 /130 W
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P R 221612Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9338

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2001

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DA, UN, CY

SUBJECT: DANISH VIEW ON CYPRUS SITUATION

1. DURING DISCUSSION AFTERNOON JULY 22 MFA'S ACTING
POLITICAL DIRECTOR OLE BIERRING CONFIRMED TO CHARGE
AND POLCOUNS THAT GREEK AND TURKISH AMBASADORS HAD
BEEN CALLED IN SATURDAY EVENING AND GIVEN WHAT HE DESCRIBED
AS "DANISH PRESENTATION" OF AGREED EC APPROACH ON CYPRUS.

2. BIERRING SAID HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A
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MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

IN WHICH PRIME MINISTER HARTLING (WHO IS ACTING FOR MIN
IN GULDBERG'S ABSENCE) HAD GIVEN A "BRILLIANT" EXPOSE
OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, WHO
FORM THE LARGEST GROUP IN THE COMMITTEE, MADE IT
CLEAR TO HARTLING THAT THEY DID NOT WISH TO SEE ANY ACTION
WHICH WOULD STRENGTHEN THE MILITARY JUNTA IN ATHENS.
BIERRING DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER HARTLING HAD GIVEN ANY
COMMITMENT, OR IN FACT ANY RESPONSE, ON THIS POINT.

3. BIERRING NOTED THAT THE US HAD BEEN UNDER SOME
CRITICISM FOR NOT HAVING TAKEN A HARDER LINE TOWARD THE
GREEK GOVT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS. HE SAID HE
WAS TELLING THOSE WHO RAISED THIS QUESTION WITH HIM THAT
THE US APPARENTLY FELT THAT IT WOULD JEOPARDIZE WHATEVER
LEVERAGE IT HAD WITH THE PARTIES CONCERNED IF IT APPEARED
TO ABANDON AN EVEN-HANDED APPROACH AND TILTED IN EITHER
DIRECTION. CHARGE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BIERRING'S
RATIONALE SINCE WE HAD NOTED CRITICAL COMMENTS FROM
DANISH AND OTHER SOURCES ABOUT US POSITION.

4. AS REGARDS DANISH PEACEKEEPING CONTINGENT ON CYPRUS,
BIERRING SAID HE THOUGHT THAT ANY QUESTION OF ITS REDUC-
TION -- LET ALONE ITS EVENTUAL REMOVAL -- WOULD BE PUT
OFF "INTO THE DISTANT FUTURE". AS TO ITS AUGMENTATION IF
REQUIRED (NICOSIA 1612 AND USUN 2519), HE HAD NO
DEFINITE VIEW EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT HARTLING HAD TOLD THE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE THAT DENMARK WOULD BE WILLING
TO PLAY ITS ROLE IN HELPING KEEP THE PEACE IF CALLED UPON.
BIERRING SAID THAT ONE DANISH MEMBER OF THE PEACEKEEPING
CONTINGENT HAD BEEN SERIOUSLY WOUNDED BY GUNFIRE.

5. ALMOST ALL NON-OFFICIAL DANES HAVE NOW LEFT CYPRUS.
BIERRING ESTIMATED THAT ONLY ABOUT 2 DOZEN WERE LEFT ON
THE ISLAND. THE HUNDREDS OF DANES WHO HAVE BEEN
VACATIONING IN GREECE AND ON GREEK ISLANDS HAVE BEEN
ALERTED AS TO THE NEED FOR POSSIBLE DEPARTURE.

6. COMMENT: NEWS OF THE CEASEFIRE CAME TOO LATE FOR
THE MORNING PRESS, BUT IT HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITH GRATIFI-
CATION BY EVERYONE WITH WHOM THE EMBASSY IS IN CONTACT.
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BIERRING'S VIEWS ABOVE INDICATE THAT THE DANES ARE NOT
OVER-REACTING AND WILL PROBABLY BE HELPFUL IF INCREASED
PEACEKEEPING FORCES ARE NECESSARY. RUMORS OF A NEW
COUP IN ATHENS HAVE JUST BEEN RECEIVED HERE AND IT IS TOO
SOON TO SAY WHETHER, IF CONFIRMED, THEY WILL HAVE ANY
EFFECT ON LOCAL ATTITUDES. IT CAN BE SAID WITH SOME ASSUR-
ANCE, HOWEVER, THAT A THIRD MILITARY GOVERNMENT
WOULD REINFORCE THOSE WHO WISH TO DISTANCE DANISH POLICY

FROM GREECE.
DUNNIGAN

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